

Stakeholder Advisory Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2007
Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Athens, GA

I. Roll Call

Mr. Hamilton called the meeting to order and called roll. Present were Stakeholder Advisory Board members, Alice Champagne, Doug Easter, James Hamilton, James Magnus, Robert Ringer and Ben Thompson. Also present from the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission were Brent Dykes and Lauren Zdunczyk. There were not enough members present to form a quorum. Therefore, the Board held discussion on proposed changes to the Rule but no vote was taken.

II. Proposed Changes to Rules for Education and Certification

Stakeholders were emailed the Commission's proposed Rules and the Attorney General's Office opinion.

Mr. Hamilton asked for an update.

Mr. Dykes stated that the Attorney Generals response indicated that the proposed changes to the Rules were within the reason of the law. He also stated that he would like to present the Rules to the Commission Board at the June 21, 2007 Board meeting and once approved by the Commission Board send out for public comment.

Mr. Hamilton stated that his only concern was the use of "Certified Subcontractor" and how that may be interpreted and suggested changing "certified" to "registered" and leave "certified" for those that take an exam.

Mr. Dykes stated that the Commission believes the legislative intent was to have individual "certified". He also stated that no matter what term is used there will always be some confusion and that the Commission will be sure to provide a clear explanation of what each certification means.

Ms. Champagne stated that she had mixed feelings on the term and was more upset with the weakening of the training requirements, instead of eight hours of training there are now two hours. She also stated there may be confusion when a subcontractor acts as a primary and needs a Level IA certification.

Mr. Dykes stated that the Rules state that "Certified Subcontractors" are not "qualified" to perform Level IA duties.

Ms. Zdunczyk stated that by using the term "certified" the Commission is certifying that the requirements were met and the requirements for the Subcontractor Awareness course is that the individual attends the course and completes an application.

The overall consensus was that SAB would support the Rules as is and wait for the public comment before taking any further action.